

Decision for dispute CAC-UDRP-106803

Case number	CAC-UDRP-106803
Time of filing	2024-08-20 13:25:44
Domain names	mustijamirrifi.com
Case administrat	tor
Organization	Iveta Špiclová (Czech Arbitration Court) (Case admin)
Complainant	
Organization	Musti ja Mirri Oy
Complainant representative	
Organization	Berggren Oy
Respondent	

OTHER LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Name

The Panel is not aware of any other legal proceedings which are pending or decided and which relate to the disputed domain name.

IDENTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

The Complainant proved to be the owner of the following trademark registrations:

Cai Xue

- MUSTI JA MIRRI, EU reg. no. 009367186, filed on 10 September 2010 and registered on 25 February, 2011 in classes 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 35, 41, 44;
- (device), EU reg. no. 015099021, filed on 11 February 2016 and registered on 19 July, 2016 in classes 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 18, 20, 21, 24, 28, 31, 35, 39, 41, 43, 44, 45.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

I - The Complainant

The Complainant, Musti ja Mirri, is a pet chain company active in the Nordic countries that offers products for pets and animals and their owners.

II - The disputed domain name and the Respondent

According to information received by the Complainant, the current Registrant and therefore the Respondent of this UDRP matter is Cai Xue. The disputed domain name was registered on 13 July, 2024.

PARTIES CONTENTIONS

COMPLAINANT

The Complainant supports that the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to its prior trademarks since the sign "MUSTIJAMIRRI" is entirely comprised in the disputed domain name. The addition of the geographical element "FI" does not exclude the likelihood of confusion.

The Complainant denies that the Respondent has any rights on the disputed domain name nor that the use of it amounts to a legitimate non-commercial use or a bona fide offering of goods and services for the purpose of the Policy.

The Complainant contends that the disputed domain name was registered in bad faith as at the time of the registration the Respondent was certainly aware of the Complainant exclusive rights on the trademark MUSTIJAMIRRI. Furthermore, the use of the disputed domain name is considered in bad faith as the website to which <mustijamirrifi.com> redirected was confusingly similar to the Complainant's website and reproduced the Complainant's trademark used in the same field of business in which the Complainant is active.

RESPONDENT

No administratively compliant Response has been filed.

RIGHTS

The Complainant has, to the satisfaction of the Panel, shown the disputed domain name is identical or confusingly similar to a trademark or service mark in which the Complainant has rights (within the meaning of paragraph 4(a)(i) of the Policy).

NO RIGHTS OR LEGITIMATE INTERESTS

The Complainant has, to the satisfaction of the Panel, shown the Respondent to have no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the disputed domain name (within the meaning of paragraph 4(a)(ii) of the Policy).

BAD FAITH

The Complainant has, to the satisfaction of the Panel, shown the disputed domain name has been registered and is being used in bad faith (within the meaning of paragraph 4(a)(iii) of the Policy).

PROCEDURAL FACTORS

The Panel is satisfied that all procedural requirements under UDRP were met and there is no other reason why it would be inappropriate to provide a decision.

PRINCIPAL REASONS FOR THE DECISION

1. The disputed domain name is confusingly similar to a trademark in which the Complainant has rights.

The Complainant agrees that the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the MUSTIJAMIRRI trademarks. According to a consolidated case law if the trademark is entirely comprised in the disputed domain name, the threshold requested by the First element of the Policy is met.

In the Panel's view the addition of the geographical term "FI" (abbreviation for Finland) increases rather than excludes the risk of confusion for the public as it could be associated to the local branch or distributor of the Complainant. It is significant that the Complainant is based in Finland.

Furthermore, the addition of the ".com" gTLD is generally disregarded for assessing confusing similarity in view of its technical function.

As a consequence, the Panel finds that the disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the Complainant's trademarks, for the purposes of the First Element of the Policy.

2. The Respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name.

The Respondent has not submitted a response to the Complaint. Therefore, it has filed no information on possible rights or legitimate interests it might hold on <mustijamirrifi.com>. On its part, the Complainant has submitted information and arguments which, according to the Panel, are sufficient to conclude that the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interest in the disputed domain name.

According to the information provided by the Complainant, and not contested, the Respondent is not commonly known by the disputed domain name nor it has been authorized to use the Complainant's trademark.

The Panel agrees that the use of the disputed domain name does not amount to a bona fide offering of goods and services nor to a legitimate non-commercial use for the purpose of the Policy. The Complainant proved that the disputed domain name redirected to a website that could be perceived as part of the Complainant's official network since it contains the Complainant's figurative and verbal trademarks and images of the Complainant's products.

For these reasons, the Panel takes the view that the Respondent lacks rights or legitimate interests in the disputed domain name for the purposes of the Policy.

3. The disputed domain name has been registered and is being used in bad faith.

The Respondent was clearly aware that the Complainant conducted its business under the MUSTIJAMIRRI trademark as:

i) the disputed domain name was registered well after the Complainant's trademark registrations;

ii) the disputed domain name redirected to a website which offered for sale MUSTIJAMIRRI products and contained images of the MUSTIJAMIRRI figurative trademark and products;

iii) the disputed domain name combines the trademark MUSTIJAMIRRI and the geographic term FI (for Finland where the Complainant is based); this suggests that the Respondent was aware of the Complainant's trademark and business prior the registration of the disputed domain name.

Thus, the Panel concludes that the disputed domain name was registered in bad faith.

As regards the use in bad faith, the Panel agrees that <mustijamirrifi.com> is used in a way that could create a risk of confusion with the Complainant's business. As a matter of fact, the disputed domain name operates a website that promotes the sale of products using the Complainant's verbal and figurative trade mark. In addition, the layout as well as pictures appear to have been copied from the Complainant's website. The Panel agrees that the website to which <mustijamirrifi.com> redirects could mislead the internet users into thinking that it is, in some way or another, connected to, sponsored by or affiliated with the Complainant and its business.

All above considered the Panel finds the evidence submitted as sufficient to prove use and registration in bad faith of the disputed domain name for the purposes of the Policy.

FOR ALL THE REASONS STATED ABOVE, THE COMPLAINT IS

Accepted

AND THE DISPUTED DOMAIN NAME(S) IS (ARE) TO BE

1. mustijamirrifi.com: Transferred

PANELLISTS

 Name
 Andrea Mascetti

 DATE OF PANEL DECISION
 2024-09-24

 Publish the Decision
 Value